(19) Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

(11) Publication number: 0 356 264 A2

(12) EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number: 89308792.4

(22) Date of filing: 22.08.89

(51) Int. Cl.5: C 11 D 3/48

(30) Priority: 22.08.88 US 234706

(43) Date of publication of application:
28.02.90 Bulletin 90/09

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE ES FR GB GR IT LI LU NL SE

(71) Applicant: Becton Dickinson and Company
One Becton Drive
Franklin Lakes New Jersey 07417-1880 (US)

(72) Inventor: Khan, Mohammed A.
10005 So. Falcon Hurst Drive
Sandy Utah (US)

Moellmer, John F.
986 Princeton Avenue
Salt Lake City Utah (US)

(74) Representative: Ruffles, Graham Keith et al
MARKS & CLERK 57-60 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3LS (GB)

(54) Cleansing composition for topical disinfection.

(57) An antimicrobial cleansing composition, particularly useful as a surgical scrub, comprises

(a) about 2 to 6% of a chlorhexidine salt;

(b) about 4 to 6% of a nonylphenoxypoly(ethyleneoxy)ethanol surfactant;

(c) at least one additional ingredient which is a polyethyleneglycol ether of lanolin, a polyethyleneglycol diester of a first fatty acid, and/or an amide of a second fatty acid; and

(d) water

nonlphenoxypoly(ethyleneoxy)ethanol surfactant in an aqueous vehicle, and may contain other surfactants, thickeners, emollients, dyes, perfumes and the like.

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Description

CLEANSING COMPOSITION FOR TOPICAL DISINFECTION

This invention relates to antimicrobial activity, and, more specifically, relates to antimicrobial cleansing compositions including chlorhexidine and a nonionic surfactant.

The antimicrobial effects of bisbiguanides have long been known. Chlorhexidine is the best known member of the class, and this product has been marketed for many years in various formulations such as antibacterial hand washes and surgical scrub compositions. These formulations generally include both a surface active agent and a low percentage of an alcohol, usually isopropanol.

Burdon et al. reported in 1967 that stock solutions of chlorhexidine frequently were contaminated with species of Pseudomonas, but that the combination of chlorhexidine and 4% V/V isopropanol greatly reduced this problem. Nevertheless, the authors speculated that continued use of isopropanol may ultimately result in selection of strains resistant to the chlorhexidine-isopropanol combination.

Billany et al., in U.S. Patent No. 3,960,745, discloses a chlorhexidine cleansing composition formulated with a polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene nonionic sufactant. The Billany et al. formulation is marketed under the trade name Hibiclens^{R} by Stuart Pharmaceuticals, Wilmington, Delaware, a division of ICI Americas Inc. Billany et al. teaches that anionic, cationic and amphoteric surfactants all form complexes with chlorhexidine, and that of 17 nonionic surfactants studied, only four, all polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene surfactants, could be formulated with chlorhexidine with retention of 70% of the antimicrobial activity of a 2% solution of chlorhexidine gluconate. The patent further teaches that not even all members of this class are equally suitable for chlorhexidine formulations, and that complexation of the chlorhexidine with the surfactant results in a substantial reduction of the antibacterial activity of the chlorhexidine.

U.S. Patent No. 4,420,484 to Gorman et al. discloses a skin cleansing composition consisting of a bisbiguanide antimicrobial agent and a combination of surfactants formulated with water, alcohol and various other ingredients. The Gorman et al. patent states that all ingredients in the patented composition are particularly described in the prior art.

Owens, in U.S Patent No. 4,456,543 shows an antibacterial cleansing product containing a bisbiguanide and one or more nonionic polyoxyalkylene surfactants containing oxyethylene, oxypropylene and oxybutylene blocks. Owens, like Billany et al., states that complexation of chlorhexidine and the surfactant results in a substantial reduction of antibacterial activity.

Chlorhexidine-containing compositions are marketed by Stuart Pharmaceuticals, Wilmington, Delaware, under the trade name Hibiclens^{R}; by Xtrium Laboratories, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, under the trade name Exidine^{R}, by Medical Systems Research, Inc., Salt Lake City, Utah, under the trade name Steri-Stat and by Huntington Laboratories, Inc., Huntington, Indiana, under the trade name Cida-Stat.

Chlorhexidine cleansing compositions are used principally as hand washes and surgical scrubs. As such, it is desirable to effect the most complete kill possible of the bacterial flora which routinely proliferate on the skin. The principal organism existing on the skin is Staphylococcus aureus, an organism well-known to be resistant to antibacterial agents. Accordingly, there is a need for a chlorhexidine composition particularly effective against this organism. This invention addresses this and other needs.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An antimicrobial cleansing composition includes a salt of chlorhexidine and a nonylphenoxypoly(ethyleneoxy)ethanol surfactant in an aqueous vehicle. The preferred salt is the gluconate and is included in the composition in a concentration of about 4% by weight. (In the present disclosure, all percentages are by weight unless otherwise stated.) Other surfactants and thickening agents such as polyethyleneglycol (hereinafter PEG) esters of fatty acids, PEG ethers of lanolin and fatty acid amides may be included in the composition. Other ingredients such as dyes and perfumes may be added to give the composition any desired color and scent. The most preferred vehicle is water, and the pH may be adjusted to any desired level by adding acid or base as required.

All surfactants in chlorhexidine compositions are known to form complexes to a greater or lesser extent with the chlorhexidine. Chlorhexidine has long been believed to be deactivated by complexation wherein antibacterial activity resides only in that portion of the chlorhexidine which is not complexed. The composition of the present invention is formulated with a surfactant heretofore not disclosed in chlorhexidine formulations. The surfactant and chlorhexidine of the present composition are highly complexed, yet, in contrast to prior art reports, the formulation is highly effective, providing substantially total kill of S. aureus and other bacteria.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

While this invention is satisfied by embodiments in many different forms, there will herein be described in detail preferred embodiments of the invention, with the understanding that the present disclosure is to be considered as exemplary of the principles of the invention and is not intended to limit the invention to the

embodiments described. The scope of the invention will be measured by the appended claims and their equivalents.

The chlorhexidine in the present cleansing composition is 79% complexed with a particular surfactant, yet provides rapid and substantially complete kill of most bacteria, including S. aureus. In addition, the present composition provides all the other attributes of known chlorhexidine formulations, such as safety, mildness, emolliency, and sudsing. The advantages of the present composition are consequent to incorporation into the composition of a nonylphenoxypoly(ethyleneoxy)ethanol surfactant.

The concentration of chlorhexidine in the composition of the present invention may be about 1 to 10%, preferably 2 to 6%, most preferably 3.5 to 4.5%. Chlorhexidine base may be used, however a salt of chlorhexidine which is soluble in the formulation is preferred. Preferred salts are the hydrochloride, acetate, and most preferably, the gluconate. Chlorhexidine gluconate is commercially available from ICI Americas, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware.

Any aqueous vehicle which is compatible with the ingredients of the composition may be used. Preferred vehicles are aqueous alcohols, such as isopropanol or ethanol, mixtures of water and solvents such as dimethylsulfoxide, or, most preferably, pure water.

A nonionic surfactant of the nonylphenoxypoly(ethyleneoxy)ethanol type may be included in the composition of the invention. This class of surfactants is commercially available from GAF Corporation, Wayne, New Jersey, under the trade name Igepal^{R}, and has the following formula:

C_9H_{19}- O - O - $(CH_2CH_2\ O)_{n-1}\ CH_2CH_2OH$

where n is the number of molecules of ethylene oxide per molecule of nonylphenol. Preferred Igepal^{R} surfactants have about 60 to 80, preferably about 66 to 75% ethylene oxide. The most preferred Igepal^{R} surfactant of the invention is Igepal^{R} CO-720 having about 71% ethylene oxide. It may be present in the composition in a concentration of 2 to 10%, preferably 4 to 6%, most preferably about 5% of the total weight of the composition.

In addition to the Igepal^{R} surfactant, the composition of the invention may include additional nonionic surfactants. For example, a PEG ether of lanolin may be used. This class of surfactants is also commercially available, and may be obtained from Amerchol Corporation, Edison, New Jersey, under the trade name Solulan^{R}. Preferred Solulan^{R} surfactants have hydroxyl values of about 35 to 75. The most preferred Solulan^{R} surfactant is Solulan^{R} 75 having a hydroxyl value of 40-50. This product confers emulsifying and plasticizing properties to the composition and, in addition, being soluble in water, aids in solubilizing or dispersing other ingredients of the compositions. The quantity of the Solulan^{R} surfactant in the composition may advantageously be from 3 to 7%, preferably 4.5 to 5.5%, most preferably about 5%.

Other ingredients which are conventional or desirable in various cosmetic formulations may be added to the composition of the invention. For instance, one or more thickening agents may be advantageous. Particularly useful thickening agents are fatty acid esters of PEG having a molecular weight of about 200 to 6000. For example, PEG esters of lauric acid, oleic acid, and, most preferably stearic acid, such as PEG-6000 distearate may be used. This product is commercially available from Stepan Co., Northfield, Illinois, as Kessco^{R} PEG-6000. Fatty acid amide thickening agents may be used, such as ammonia, ethanolamine and diethanolamine amides of oleic acid, coco acid, or preferably, lauric acid. A particularly preferred thickening agent is lauric acid diethanolamide, commercially available from Witco Chemical Corporation Houston, Texas, under the trade name Witcamide^{R} 5195. Both of these products may be used within a range of 2 to 5%, preferably 3 to 4%, most preferably about 3.5% and provide conditioning, emulsifying and foam stabilizing properties to the composition in addition to being thickeners.

If desired, the composition of the invention may include a perfume to provide a pleasing scent or a dye to provide a characteristic color. The preferred composition is colored red by inclusion of sufficient Red #40 to achieve the desired color. Most preferably, a concentration of about 0.01% of Red #40 is added to the composition.

It is preferred that the pH of the composition be adjusted to about 7.0 by addition of a suitable acidifying or alkalinizing agent, such as 6 N hydrochloric acid or 50% sodium hydroxide.

The present invention is more particularly described by means of, but not limited to, the following examples.

EXAMPLE I

Preferred Composition of the Invention

Chlorhexidine gluconate	4.1%
Igepal^{R} CO-720	5.0%
Solulan^{R} 75	5.0%
Witcamide 5195	3.5%
PEG-6000 distearate	3.5%
Red #40	0.01%
Water	78.89%

EXAMPLE II

Method of Manufacture of the Composition of Example I

In a suitably sized vessel equipped for mixing was placed 61.18 g of purified water and 21.81 g of an 18.8% water solution of chlorhexidine gluconate B.P. After mixing well, 5.0 g of Igepal^{R} CO-720 was added slowly and mixed well. Solulan^{R} 75, 5.0 g, was heated to 55°C until melted and then added with thorough mixing. Witcamide^{R} 5195, 5.0 g, was melted by heating to 40°C and added with thorough mixing. PEG-6000 distearate, 3.5 g, was added and the mixture was vigorously mixed until complete homogeneity had been achieved and no flakes remained. Red #40 dye (10 mg) was added and the mixture was stirred until a clear, red, syrupy liquid was obtained. The mixture was adjusted if necessary to pH 7.0 by the addition of either 6 N HCl or 50% NaOH.

EXAMPLE III

Determination of Percentage of Complexation Between Chlorhexidine and Surfactant

This determination was made in accordance with the procedure of Owens, supra and gave the data summarized in Table I.

TABLE I

Sample No.	20 Hour Equilibration Time		72 Hour Equilibration Time	
	% Complexed	% Uncomplexed	% Complexed	% Uncomplexed
1	26	74	13	87
2	79	21	72	28
3	0	100		
4	73	27		
5	77	23		
6	82	18		
7	79	21		
8	86	14	83	17

Key for sample number:

1 Hibiclens^{R}

2 Composition of Example I

3 4% chlorhexidine gluconate in water

4 Composition of Example I, but Igepal^{R} Co-720 replaced with Igepal^{R} CA-897

5 Composition of Example I, but Igepal^{R} Co-720 replaced with Igepal^{R} CO-710

6 Composition of Example I, but Igepal^{R} Co-720 replaced with Igepal^{R} CO-660

7 Composition of Example I, but Igepal^{R} Co-720 replaced with Igepal^{R} CA-630

8 Composition of Example I, but Solulan^{R} 75 replaced with Solulan^{R} 5

EXAMPLE IV

Efficacy Test

The composition of Example I was irradiated (3.1 Mrad) to ensure sterility and an efficacy comparison against Hibiclens^R was carried out by the following procedure:

Full strength composition (C), irradiated composition (C-I) and Hibiclens^R (H) were serially diluted 1:10; 1:100 and 1:1000. Each dilution was challenged with 0.1 ml of inoculum containing the number of colony forming units (CFU) of the 4 organisms given in Table II below. After exposure times of 1,2 and 5 minutes, 1.0 ml of each inoculated dilution was transferred to a tube containing 9 ml of Difco Dey Engley neutralizing broth. Samples (1.0 ml) of each dilution in neutralizing broth were further diluted into 9 ml of Difco Dey Engley neutralizing broth base. All tubes were then incubated at 30 to 35°C for 48 hours. Nutrient agar pour plates were prepared from each tube and examined for the presence of colonies after a minimum of 48 hours. The results of this experiment are given in Table II below.

TABLE II

KILL TIMES (Minutes)

ORGANISM	DILUTIONS	H	C	C-I
1. Staphylococcus aureus 4.7×10^6 CFU	Full	Pos.	1	1
	1:10	Pos.	1	1
	1:100	2	1	1
	1:1000	Pos.	5	Pos.
2. Pseudomonas aeruginosa 8.5×10^6 CFU	Full	1	1	1
	1:10	1	1	1
	1:100	1	5	2
	1:1000	5	Pos.	5
3. Candida albicans 3.10×10^5 CFU	Full	1	1	1
	1:10	1	1	1
	1:100	1	1	1
	1:1000	2	2	2
4. Escherichia coli 6.2×10^8 CFU	Full	1	1	1
	1:10	1	1	1
	1:100	1	2	5
	1:1000	5	2	5

Pos. - colonies observed, total kill not achieved.

This test demonstrates that the composition of the invention was significantly more effective than Hibiclens^R versus S. aureus in spite of the fact that it is 79% complexed in contrast to Hibiclens which is only 26% complexed. The results versus the other organisms were identical through the 1:10 dilutions and similar at other dilutions. It is seen from Table II that irradiation of the composition did not significantly affect the antimicrobial efficacy of the composition, and that the irradiated composition is an effective antimicrobial cleansing composition.

Thus, the invention provides a cleansing composition which includes a chlorhexidine salt highly complexed with a nonionic nonylphenoxypoly(ethyleneoxy)ethanol surfactant. The composition of the invention including this particular surfactant has activity against S. aureus significantly greater than a prior art composition in which the degree of complexation is much lower. This result is completely unexpected in light of the heretofore generally accepted view that activity and complexation are inversely related. Since S. aureus is a commonly found organism on skin and is often difficult to kill completely, the composition of the invention represents a marked and unexpected improvement over prior art cleansing compositions.

Claims

1. An antimicrobial cleansing composition comprising:
   (a) about 2 to 6% of a chlorhexidine salt;
   (b) about 4 to 6% of a nonylphenoxypoly(ethyleneoxy)ethanol surfactant;
   (c) at least one additional ingredient which is a polyethyleneglycol ether of lanolin, a

polyethyleneglycol diester of a first fatty acid, and/or an amide of a second fatty acid; and
(d) water.

2. A composition as claimed in claim 1 in which the salt is a hydrochloride, acetate or gluconate.

3. A composition as claimed in claim 1 in which the second fatty acid is stearic acid.

4. A composition as claimed in claim 1 in which the second fatty acid is lauric acid.

5. A composition as claimed in claim 4 in which the amide is an amide of ammonia, ethanolamine or diethanolamine.

6. A composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims further comprising a dye.

7. A composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims further comprising a pH adjusting compound which is an acid or a base.

8. An antimicrobial cleansing composition comprising:
(a) about 4% of chlorhexidine gluconate;
(b) about 5% of a nonylphenoxypoly(ethyleneoxy)ethanol;
(c) about 5% of a polyethyleneglycol ether of lanolin alcohol;
(d) about 3.5% of a polyethyleneglycol distearate;
(e) about 3.5% of lauric acid diethanolamide; and
(f) water.

9. A composition as claimed in claim 8 further comprising a dye.

10. A composition as claimed in claim 8 or claim 9 further comprising sufficient of a pH adjusting compound, which is an acid or a base, to adjust the pH of the composition to about 7.